

# SiteWorks Newsletter May 2026

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This newsletter is distributed to SiteWorks Web Managers (WMs) who are registered with us.

Please pass on to your SiteWorks users

We can optionally register a second contact (Assistant WM). To update our records, please use the Contacts form launched by clicking the button on our homepage at [siteworks.u3a.org.uk](https://siteworks.u3a.org.uk).

## WordPress 7 is here

Your SiteWorks site will probably have been updated with WordPress 7 by the time you read this – the rollout is not something under the control of the SiteWorks team. However, we have tested late releases against the SiteWorks plugins and deployed a few tweaks.

Visible changes you may come across are:

**Revision history** is now shown visually rather than a text view of edit changes. This makes it a lot easier to see what changes were made to a page. You can access revision history from the settings panel by selecting the Page (rather than Block) tab. More information here:-

<https://make.wordpress.org/core/2026/05/14/wordpress-7-0-field-guide/#visual-revisions>

**Customisable mobile menus** (for experienced WMs). Previously, the "hamburger" menu icon on a mobile device generated an overlay menu with no control over content or layout. There is now a Navigation Overlay block that can be used to design a custom overlay menu for mobile users. More information here:-

<https://make.wordpress.org/core/2026/03/04/customisable-navigation-overlays-in-wordpress-7-0/>

**Block visibility controls** (again for experienced WMs). This lets you hide or set different content on desktop, tablet and/or mobile. See this YouTube video for a demo:- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYq7aVoJIOk>, and there is more here:- <https://make.wordpress.org/core/2026/03/15/block-visibility-in-wordpress-7-0/>

A new **Icon block** that lets you insert one of a number of standard icons. Demo video on Vimeo here:- <https://vimeo.com/1178510779> .

A new **Breadcrumbs block**. Useful to show visitors where they are on your site if you have a deep menu structure, but this won't be useful for most SiteWorks sites. Some documentation is here:- <https://vimeo.com/1178510779>

WordPress now has AI integration. To find out more, try this YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTywTr3h4kc> and this one (skip to 4:30) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWzYIYFVSAI&t=263s>

## Does the Trust have your website URL?

On the Trust's website, there is a "Find a u3a" search feature (<https://www.u3a.org.uk/u3a-locations>) that returns results that include a 'Visit Website' button.

The data for this will be the website URL submitted by your Business Secretary on the Trust's 'Contact details for your u3a' Portal. It is worth checking your u3a and, if necessary, asking your Business Secretary to correct the URL using the Trust's Portal.

## What is Local WP?

Those who were around for the Site Builder migration will know that Local WP is a great tool to run a SiteWorks site on your computer (Windows, Mac and Linux). It is useful for those learning WordPress and SiteWorks, or as somewhere to develop new designs and layouts. Local WP is also the recommended way to try out 3<sup>rd</sup> party plugins away from your live site. From our recent experience in supporting new and current SiteWorks sites, it has become a robust and mature product.

For more information on how to install Local WP, see the menu **Web Manager > New Web Managers > Install Local WP and Demo site** on our website [siteworks.u3a.org.uk](https://siteworks.u3a.org.uk)

## Sharing Local WP

The ability to show a Local WP site to colleagues was limited to real-time screen sharing on a 'Zoom' meeting. Local WP now has a feature called **Live Links** that enables a WordPress site running on your computer to be viewed from the Internet in the same way a production SiteWorks site can. This is achieved without granting access to your home network through firewalls.

You first need to create an account with Local WP using an email address you have access to (or use a Google account). You can then share a URL link along with a simple username and password (highlighted in red below) that colleagues can use to view your site.

It works by Local WP uploading the pages requested to a Local WP server. Your visitors will not be directly accessing Local WP on your computer.

There are instructions here:- <https://localwp.com/help-docs/local-features/live-links>

Be aware that this works by uploading your site's pages to a Local WP server, and this will be relatively slow if you don't have a fibre connection. You can try out the experience on a browser on your own computer.

It goes without saying that you need to be running the site being shared and your computer needs to be running and not in "sleep" mode.

You can try out the experience on your own computer by using the credentials shown in the menu **Tools > Live Links**.

# siteworks-demo

Last started: May 10

Site folder | Site shell | VS Code

Overview Database Backups **Tools**

WP Admin

Open site

Mailpit

**Live Links**

Live Links

On

Live Links are viewable while your computer is turned on and connected to the internet. Sleep mode may prevent others from viewing Live Links. [Learn more](#)

URL

judicious-worm.localsite.io

Username

cheese

Password

standing

Details for sharing

Open Live Link:  
https://judicious-worm.localsite.io

If prompted, enter the information below.

Username: cheese

Password: standing

## Local WP and email

A SiteWorks Contact page generates an email when submitted. If you try this out on Local WP, then you may have perceived that nothing appears to have happened. Local WP actually stores emails, a feature it calls Mailpit. Emails sent can be viewed for the site selected on the Local WP dashboard using the menu **Tools > Open Mailpit**. This launches a browser tab where the details of the emails sent can be inspected.

# siteworks-demo

Stop site

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Live Links

Mailpit

**Open Mailpit**

Outbound email from your Local site is intercepted by Mailpit.

## Drop-ins schedule reminder

To help those with regular Monday afternoon commitments, we moved the first meeting of the month to a Tuesday at 15:00. The schedule is now:

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 15:00

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 15:00 etc.

Meetings usually start with a demonstration on a topic followed by an open Q&A. We'll announce the topic in a reminder email the weekend before each session.

Support Zoom Drop-In for Web Managers Zoom link:-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87930189828?pwd=MNUdMvrBoBadaBHcOuD9rOZHjXDOT.1>

Meeting ID: 879 3018 9828

Passcode: SB5VjO

Written by Graham Tigg

**The SiteWorks Team**

